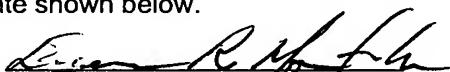


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on or before the date shown below.



  
Eugene R. Montalvo  
Date: 26 Jun 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of }  
Van Riet, Egbert Jan }  
Serial No. 10/520,606 }  
Filed: 16 January 2005 }  
CHOKE FOR CONTROLLING THE FLOW }  
OF DRILLING MUD }  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, Virginia 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Matthew J Smith

25 June 2007

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED 12 JUNE 2007**

Dear Sir:

Attorney for Applicant in the above-captioned application hereby responds to the Final Office Action mailed 12 June 2006. At the time the Office Action issued, claims 1 to 7 and 9-12 were pending.

Amendments are made to cancel the rejected independent claim and otherwise comply with the requirements as set forth in the Final Office Action. The amendments thus bring the application into a condition ready for allowance and entry of the amendments is respectfully requested for that reason.

The amendment causes the number of independent claims to exceed the number of 3 three mentioned in 37 CFR 1.16(h) by 1. The Commissioner is herewith authorized to charge the appropriate excess claim fee to our Deposit Account 19-1800, as well as any other fee that the present response may incur.